

Listing of the Claims

Claim 1. (Original): An apparatus for electrically earthing a load-side conductor in a controller, said apparatus comprising:

a base;

a lug electrically connected to said load-side conductor and fixedly attached to said base;

an earthing bar adapted to contact said lug and provide a ground path from said lug, said earthing bar adapted to move between a charged position and an earthed position;

a ground connection electrically connected to said earthing bar and adapted to earth said earthing bar;

a spring having a first end and a second end, said first end engaging said earthing bar and said second end engaging said base, said spring providing a motive force for moving said earthing bar from said charged position to said earthed position;

a charging mechanism for compressing said spring and moving said earthing bar from said earthed position to said charged position;

an actuating mechanism for releasing said spring and causing said earthing bar to move from said charged position to said earthed position; and

an operator for tripping said actuating mechanism.

Claim 2. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said lug includes a bevel against which said earthing bar rests when said earthing bar is in said earthed position.

1 Claim 3. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said base includes a  
2 positioning member adapted for engaging said lug wherein said lug is held in  
3 spaced relation to said base.

1 Claim 4. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said lug includes a flat  
2 surface adapted to receive a load-side terminal.

1 Claim 5. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said lug is adapted to receive  
2 a line-side conductor.

1 Claim 6. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising a tang on said lug,  
2 said tang adapted to fixedly engage a corresponding slot in said base.

1 Claim 7. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said operator includes an  
2 indicator with a first indication corresponding to said earthing bar in said  
3 charged position and a second indication corresponding to said earthing bar in  
4 said earthed position.

1 Claim 8. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said actuating mechanism  
2 includes

3 a first member connected to a second member at a first pivot which is constrained to a  
4 slot in a third member,

5 said second member has a distal end opposite said first pivot, said distal end pivotably  
6 connected to a sliding member,

7 said sliding member fixedly attached to said earthing bar,

8 said first member having a central pivot held in fixed spatial relation to said base,

9 said third member engaging said charging mechanism,

10 whereby said first member and said second member are held in a fixed position with  
11 said spring compressed.

1 Claim 9. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein, with said earthing bar in  
2 said charged position,

3 said first pivot is fixedly positioned slightly off a line connecting said central pivot of  
4 said first member and said distal end of said second member.

1 Claim 10. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein said first and second  
2 members are adapted to hold said earthing bar in said charged position  
3 whereby said first pivot is fixedly positioned slightly off a line connecting said  
4 central pivot of said first member and said distal end of said second member.

1 Claim 11. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein said first and second  
2 members are adapted to hold said earthing bar in said charged position  
3 whereby said first and second members form an obtuse angle and said first  
4 pivot is fixedly positioned.

1 Claim 12. (Canceled)

1 Claim 13. (Canceled)

1 Claim 14. (Currently amended) An apparatus for electrically earthing a load-side  
2 conductor in a controller, said apparatus comprising:

3 an earthing member connected to ground, said earthing ~~bar~~ member adapted to move  
4 between a charged position and an earthed position in which said load-side conductor is  
5 earthed;

6 a spring providing a motive force for moving said earthing ~~bar~~ member from said  
7 charged position to said earthed position, wherein said spring is compressed in said charged  
8 position;

9 a sliding member fixedly attached to said earthing member;

10 a first member having a central pivot for rotating thereabout ~~held in fixed spatial~~  
11 ~~relation~~;

12 a second member having a first distal end connected to said first member at a first  
13 pivot and an opposite distal end connected to said sliding member at a second pivot; and

14 a third member defining a slot, said first pivot constrained to said slot;

15 whereby movement of said third member causes said first pivot to toggle between a  
16 first position corresponding to said charged position and a second position corresponding to  
17 said earthed position;

1 Claim 15. (Original): An apparatus for electrically earthing a load-side conductor in a  
2 controller, said apparatus comprising:

3 a means for electrically connecting said load-side conductor to a lug;

4 a means for earthing said lug;

5 a means for storing energy; and

6 a means for releasing said stored energy.

1 Claim 16. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 15 wherein said means for earthing  
2 includes

3 a means for contacting said lug with an earthing conductor; and

4 a means for earthing said earthing conductor.

1 Claim 17. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 15 wherein said means for storing  
2 energy includes

3 a means for compressing a spring; and

4 a means for holding said spring in a compressed state.

1 Claim 18. (Original): The apparatus of Claim 15 whereby said means for releasing  
2 said stored energy includes

3 a means for decompressing a compressed spring.

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